



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#25(5/20/03 Amdt G

In re Patent Application of) Art Unit: 1756
Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al.) Examiner: M. Angebrannt
Serial No. 09/396,381)
Filed: September 15, 1999)
For: APPARATUS FOR FABRICATING)
COATING AND METHOD OF)
FABRICATING THE COATING)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with The United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on _____

Adeline M. Stamps

AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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TC 1700

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated December 5, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend independent claims 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 36, 43, 50, 57-60, 68-71, 79-82, 90-93, 101-104, 112-115, 123-126, 134-137, 145-148 and 156-159 as follows:

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1. (Amended) A method for operating an optically recordable disk memory comprising the steps of:
 - introducing an optical disk having a surface protected by a protective film comprising a hard-carbon coating having a thickness of 500Å or less;
 - irradiating a semiconductor laser light onto said optical disk through said hard-carbon coating;
 - wherein the number of pin-holes in said hard-carbon coating is 30/mm² or less, wherein said hard-carbon coating is an outermost layer of the disk, and wherein said hard-carbon coating contains hydrogen;
 - wherein said hard-carbon coating contains silicon and phosphorus.